

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

THIN JOINT MORTARS

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(First Issue)

QUESTION

Can thin joint mortar be used in temperatures below 2°C?

CONSIDERATIONS

- NHBC Standards Chapter 3.2 'Cold weather working' Clause 3.2.5 'masonry' says 'when laying masonry in cold weather and temperatures are below, or likely to fall below 2°C, masonry should not be laid'.
- Some thin joint masonry mortars have manufacturer's guidance stating they can be used down to as low as 0°C.

ANSWER

Thin joint mortars that can be shown to have been successfully tested for use down to 0°C are acceptable when the temperature is 0°C and rising.

The mortar should be used strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and Chapter 3.2 'Cold weather working'.